

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 FEAE-00 COME-00 NSF-01  
NAS-01 INT-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 /081 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1812  
INFO ERDA WASHDC  
ERDA GERMANTOWN MD  
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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DEPT PASS FEA

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TGEN/, ENRG, PINT, US, UR  
SUBJECT: SOVIET COOPERATION IN ENERGY INFORMATION AND FORECASTING:  
POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO ACTIVATE PROGRAM TO BENEFIT U.S. (08.01)

1. IN RECENT MEETING AT SCST, SCICOUNS DISCUSSED WITH  
AYKAZYAN UPCOMING MEETING OF ENERGY JOINT COMMITTEE,  
OBSERVING THAT U.S.- SOVIET COOPERATION IN ENERGY  
FORECASTING (08.01) COULD BE MORE PRODUCTIVE.  
AYKAZYAN CONCURRED AND EXPLAINED THAT SOVIETS CONSIDER  
THEIR OWN ENERGY FORECASTING A "LARGE, COMPLEX  
PROBLEM," REQUIRING SCST COORDINATION OF SEVERAL  
INPUTS. ACCORDING TO AYKAZYAN, PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY  
IS ASSIGNED TO KOSNTANTIN D. LAVRENNENKO, CHIEF OF THE  
SCST DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY,  
WHO REPORTS TO SCST/DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ALEKSENKO  
IN THIS REGARD. AYKAZYAN STATED THAT LAVRENNENKO HEADS  
THE SOVIET INTER-AGENCY ENERGY FORECASTING COMMITTEE,  
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WHICH INCLUDES THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (REPRESENTED  
BY THE INSTITUTE OF HIGH TEMPERATIVE-IVTAN),  
THE STATE COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY, AND THE MINISTRY  
OF POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION (LIST MAY NOT BE COMPLETE).

2. AYKAZYAN SAID THAT SOVIETS LOOK FORWARD TO  
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE U.S. ON COOPERATION IN ENERGY

FORECASTING AT UPCOMING JCM OF U.S.-SOVIET ENERGY AGREEMENT, WHICH AYKAZYAN STATED IS THE APPROPRIATE AEGIS FOR THIS ACTIVITY. LAVRENNENKO, HIS DEPUTY DOBRAKHODOV, AND SCST ENERGY SPECIALIST VOLBERG WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE ENERGY JCM.

3. COMMENT: WITH THE HIGH IMPORTANCE OF THE SOVIET ENERGY BALANCE TO THEIR DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT AND FOREIGN TRADE, ENERGY FORECASTING HAS BECOME A MAJOR CONCERN HERE, DRAWING IN THE VESTED INTERESTS OF SEVERAL POWERFUL SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS. GIVEN THESE SOVIET HIGH-LEVEL, OFTEN COMPETING INTERESTS, WE DOUBT THAT SOVIET ENERGY FORECASTING RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE SO WELL-COORDINATED (AND SIMPLE) AS AYKAZYAN'S IMPLIED. WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE AYKAZYAN'S STATEMENT THAT SCST PLAYS A DOMINANT ROLE IN ENERGY FORECASTING, UTILIZING CONTROL OVER THE BUDGETS OF THE TECHNICAL MINISTRIES AND ITS MULTIMINISTRIAL COORDINATION ROLE. IN THIS VIEW, WE NOTE THAT SCST CHAIRMAN KIRILLIN, WHO HAS A KEEN PERSONAL INTEREST IN ENERGY POLICY, DISCUSSED THE NORTH STAR GAS PROJECT WITH THE AMERICAN CONSORTIUM BROWN AND ROOT IN JULY IN THE U.S. KIRILLIN WAS ALSO REPORTEDLY PREPARED TO DISCUSS FURTHER COOPERATION ON ENERGY FORECASTING WITH THE U.S.G. DURING THAT VISIT. FURTHER, SCST'S LAVRENNENKO, HIMSELF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A FORMER DEPUTY MINISTER OF POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION, HAS SEEMED TO US BOTH KNOWLEDGEABLE AND FORTHCOMING. ON THE OTHER HAND, IVTAN MAY BE ATTEMPTING TO SKIRT SCST'S COORDINATIVE ROLE IN ENERGY FORECASTING. IN DECEMBER 1976, IVTAN DIRECTOR SHEYNDLIN PROPOSED TO ERDA ADMINISTRATOR SEAMANS THE HOLDING OF IVTAN - USG SEMINARS ON ENERGY FORECASTING, AND IN AUGUST IVTAN DEPUTY DIRECTOR SHELKOV CLAIMED TO MOSCOW HONEYWELL REP THAT IVTAN HAS "THE SOVIET CHARTER" IN ENERGY FORECASTING.

4. AN ACTIVE, TWO-WAY PROGRAM OF COOPERATION WITH THE SOVIETS IN ENERGY FORECASTING COULD PROVIDE THE U.S. USEFUL INFORMATION ON THE SOVIET ENERGY SITUATION, AS WELL AS INSIGHTS INTO HOW VARIOUS SOVIET AGENCIES INTERACT IN THIS AREA. WE BELIEVE THAT THE COOPERATION TO DATE UNDER THE ENERGY AGREEMENT (08.01) HAS NOT DONE THIS, AND THAT ONE BARRIER TO IMPROVEMENT HAS BEEN THE DOMINANCE IN THAT GROUP BY THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION, WHICH IS CERTAINLY NOT THE SOLE IMPORTANT SOVIET ORGANIZATION INVOLVED DOMESTICALLY. LAVRENNENKO IS

APPARENTLY COMING TO THE ENERGY JCM PREPARED TO  
DISCUSS BROADENING THE COOPERATION; WE URGE THAT  
THE U.S. DEPARTMENTS OF ENERGY AND STATE  
INSURE THAT THE U.S. DELEGATION IS FULLY BRIEFED  
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF POSSIBILITY TO ACTIVITATE  
THIS COOPERATION IN A FORM BENEFICIAL TO THE U.S.  
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## Message Attributes

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